

The Board of Examiners for Nursing held a meeting on May 6, 2009 at the Hospital for Special Care Research and Education Center, 370 Osgood Avenue, New Britain, Connecticut

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair (until 11:13 AM)
Amanda Campbell, RN
Veronica Kivela, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Merrily Moynihan, Public Member
Katherine Pellerin, RN, Chair Pro Tem (starting 11:13 AM)
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN
Ivelisse Varrone, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary M. Brown, RN
Heidi Darling, LPN

ALSO PRESENT: Kerry Colson, Assistant Attorney General
Jennifer Filippone, Section Chief, OPLC, DPH
Diane Cybulski, Supervising Nurse Consultant, DPH
Donna Canalis, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Bonnie Pinkerton, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Roberta A. Swafford, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from the Windham Practical Nurse Education Program, Western CT State University, and Southern CT State University.

Chair Bouffard spoke briefly with the students and Chair Pro Tem Katherine Pellerin will provide the students of Windham PNEP Program with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs at their facility at a later date.

CHAIR UPDATES

- Chair Bouffard welcomed Jennifer Long to the BOEN as the APRN Member appointed by the Governor
- Chair Bouffard will be leaving at 11:15 AM to attend the Executive Officer Orientation at the NCSBN in Chicago today
- Chair Bouffard spoke with students at Capital Community College and Katherine Pellerin spoke with students at A. I. Prince Practical Nurse Education Program regarding Board responsibilities, jurisdiction, scope of practice.

OPEN FORUM

There were questions from the audience regarding the proposed licensure fee increases of which we have updated information. As of today nothing has been acted on. DPH cannot oppose the Governor's initiative although DPH has been very vocal. Increase in renewal fees will be a part of the budget discussions.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

There were no additional items to add to today's agenda.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jennifer Filippone, DPH-OPLC Section Chief, provided the Board with an update on the 2009 Legislative Session.

- On-line licensure renewals for physicians, dentists, and all nurses will become operational July 1, 2009. All other professions will go on-line at a later date.
- AAC Review and Termination of Certain Boards and Commissions – periodically all Boards are reviewed to see if they are still needed, how programs are functioning, and should they continue or expire. Currently the BOEN has an expiration date of June 30, 2010 although there is a bill to extend the term to June 30, 2012. There is current review of the Natureopathy, Homeopathy, and Allied Health Boards.
- AAC Patient Safety – regarding safe transport.
- AA Establishing a Demonstration Project for an Office of Administrative Hearings.

NCLEX SCORES – 2009 FIRST QUARTER

Donna Canalis reviewed the First Quarter of the NCLEX RN/LPN Scores with the Board Members. The Board expressed their concerns regarding the Henry Abbott LPN Evening Program. Donna Canalis will contact the program regarding these issues and request that they report their plan of correction to the Board at the June 3, 2009 Board of Examiners for Nursing Meeting.

SCHOOL ISSUES – COMMITTEE REGARDING PEARSON VUE ISSUES

Donna Canalis will be attending the next Deans and Directors meeting and will inquire as to who the selected representatives are that will serve on this committee.

SCHOOL ISSUES: NORWICH LPN SCHOOL SITE VISIT – NEW LOCATION

Donna Canalis made a site visit on April 30, 2009 to survey the new quarters of the Norwich LPN Program which is now located at 7 Mahan Drive in Norwich, CT. Ms. Canalis toured the secretarial office, the director's office, conference rooms, the laboratory, faculty offices, library, classrooms, cafeteria, and storage areas. Ms. Canalis stated that the LPN Program area is spacious with natural lighting throughout. There is much space available for storage making organization of supplies excellent. The entire area and equipment available makes this school conducive to learning.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE CALLS

Diane Cybulski reviewed the calls received in the Board Office for the month of March, 2009. There have been several calls requesting whether an LPN can work as a CNA. The answer is yes, and they are held accountable to that "job description" and cannot work beyond the scope of a CNA. There were also several questions regarding the RN going into independent practice and also questions regarding patient home care.

Ms. Cybulski spoke of a new abbreviated reporting format which she will present to the Board next month for frequently asked questions.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING

Jennifer Filippone is a member of NCSBN CORE Program and provided the Board with a review of a recent meeting she attended in Chicago. She also spoke of the "Licensure Compact." In order to participate in the Compact Connecticut would need to do criminal background checks.

MINUTES – MARCH 4, 2009

The Board reviewed the minutes for the March 4, 2009 meeting. Katherine Pellerin moved, seconded by Donna Roberts, to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Jennifer Long, Maria Pietrantuono, Ivelisse Varrone, and Merrily Moynihan.

MINUTES – MARCH 18, 2009

After review of the March 18, 2009 minutes, Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Donna Roberts, to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Amanda Campbell, Merrily Moynihan, and Jennifer Long.

MINUTES – APRIL 1, 2009

After review of the April 11, 2009 minutes, Donna Roberts moved, seconded by Merrily Moynihan, to accept the minutes as edited. The motion passed with all in favor with one abstention: Jennifer Long.

MINUTES – APRIL 15, 2009

After review of the April 15, 2009 minutes, Amanda Campbell moved, seconded by Donna Roberts, to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Veronica Kivella, Merrily Moynihan, and Jennifer Long.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION – BELINDA GARNETT WUTKE, LPN

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with a Memorandum of Decision for Belinda Garnett Wutke. Amanda Campbell moved and Maria Pietrantuono seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision. The motion passed with all in favor with Jennifer Long abstaining. Chair Bouffard signed the MOD.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – LEONA R. BILODEAU, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Leslie Scoville presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Leona Bilodeau. Ms. Bilodeau was present without representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Notice of Hearing and Summary Suspension Order scheduling the hearing for May 20, 2009.

MOTION FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION – MARC BILODEAU, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Motion for Summary Suspension for Marc Bilodeau. Mr. Bilodeau was present without representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to grant the Motion for Summary Suspension. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Notice of Hearing and Summary Suspension Order scheduling the hearing for May 20, 2009.

REINSTATEMENT CONSENT ORDER – COLLEEN SPEITT-BOYKO, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Reinstatement Consent Order for Colleen Speitt-Boyko. The Respondent was not present although she was represented by counsel, Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Merrily Moynihan moved, seconded by Katherine Pellerin, to accept the Reinstatement Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDER – SANDRA OROSCO, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Consent Order for Sandra Orosco. Ms. Orosco was not present and did not have representation. Maria Pietrantuono moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded to accept the Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

CONSENT ORDER – CYNTHIA RICKER, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Consent Order for Cynthia Ricker. Ms. Ricker was not present and did not have representation. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Donna Roberts, to accept the Consent Order. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

MODIFICATION CONSENT ORDER – JOHN BALBONI, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina presented the Board with a Modification Consent Order for John Balboni who was present without counsel. Katherine Pellerin moved, seconded by Donna Roberts, to accept the Modification. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Bouffard signed the Order.

Break 15 minutes

CONTINUANCE REQUEST – VANESSA KING, RN

Attorney Roberta A. Swafford and Ms. Vanessa King requested a continuance. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Ivelisse Varrone, to grant the continuance request. The motion passed unanimously and the hearing has been scheduled for July 15, 2009 at 9:00 AM.

CONTINUANCE REQUEST – JEAN RALICKI, RN

DPH Legal Office Attorney David Tilles requested a continuance. Attorney Michelle Holmes, counsel for Ms. Ralicki, objected to the continuance request. Maria Pietrantuono moved, seconded by Amanda Campbell, to grant the continuance request rescheduling the hearing for September 2, 2009 at 10:30 AM. The motion passed with all in favor with two abstentions: Veronica Kivella and Jennifer Long.

HEARING – JEROLINE KELLY, LPN

This is a continuation of the March 4, 2009 hearing held at the Department of Public Health in Hartford, CT. Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. Ms. Kelly was present with counsel, Attorney Robert Lacobelle. Testimony was continued by Rose Marie Deschenes, APRN, DPH. Chair Bouffard left at 11:13 PM and the remainder of the hearing was chaired by Katherine Pellerin. Lunch recess 11:45 AM – 12:25 PM. Testimony was provided by Stuart Grimes, St. Vincent's Assistant Operations Coordinator. Following Mr. Grimes' testimony the Board took a five-minute recess and then testimony was provided by Dawn Perodeau, RN, St. Vincent's Special Needs Services. Jennifer Long left during this testimony at 3:32 PM. The hearing concluded at 4:25 PM and was continued to June 3, 2009 at 10:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present that this meeting be adjourned at 4:30 PM.

The Board of Examiners for Nursing held a meeting on May 20, 2009 at Manchester Community College, in the Fireside Commons Room in the Learning Resource Center in Manchester, Connecticut

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Patricia Bouffard, RN, Chair
Mary M. Brown, RN
Heidi Darling, LPN
Veronica Kivela, Public Member
Jennifer Long, APRN
Merrily Moynihan, Public Member
Katherine Pellerin, RN
Donna Roberts, LPN

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Amanda Campbell, RN
Maria Pietrantuono, RN
Ivelisse Varrone, Public Member

ALSO PRESENT: Rose McGovern, Assistant Attorney General
Bonnie Pinkerton, Nurse Consultant, DPH
Linda Fazzina, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Leslie Scoville, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Ellen M. Shanley, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Roberta A. Swafford, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
David Tilles, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Diane Wilan, Staff Attorney, Legal Office, DPH
Janice E. Wojick, Administrative Assistant, DPH
Gail Gregoriades, Court Reporter

Chair Patricia Bouffard called the meeting to order at 8:36 AM.

STUDENTS

Chair Bouffard welcomed students from Kaynor Tech LPN Program, the University of Connecticut, and the Hartford Job Corp Academy.

Throughout the meeting Chair Bouffard and Katherine Pellerin provided the students with an overview of the Board's responsibilities, jurisdiction, and nursing education programs.

MEMORANDA OF DECISION

VINCENT EUGENIO, LPN

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with a Memorandum of Decision for Vincent Eugenio. Donna Roberts moved and Mary Brown seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to revoke Mr. Eugenio's license. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Jennifer Long and Veronica Kivela.

KAREN HATEM, RN

Janice E. Wojick presented the Board with a Memorandum of Decision for Karen Hatem. Katherine Pellerin moved and Mary Brown seconded to affirm the Board's prior decision to place Ms. Hatem's license on probation for two years. The motion passed with all in favor with the following abstentions: Jennifer Long and Veronica Kivela.

CONSENT ORDER – KATHY GALLAGHER, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Roberta A. Swafford presented the Board with a Consent Order for Kathy Gallagher. Ms. Gallagher was present without representation. Katherine Pellerin moved and Donna Roberts seconded to accept the Consent Order. Mary Brown and Heidi Darling recused themselves from the discussion and voting. The motion passed with all in favor.

CONSENT ORDER – LUCILLE BARBERO, RN

Legal Office Attorney Roberta A. Swafford presented the Board with a Consent Order for Lucille Barbero. Ms. Barbero was present without representation. Donna Roberts moved and Veronica Kivela seconded to accept the Consent Order. The motion passed with all in favor.

CONSENT ORDER – ETHLYN CHERRINGTON, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Ellen M. Shanley presented the Board with a Consent Order for Ethlyn Cherrington. Ms. Cherrington was not present and did not have representation. Merrily Moynihan moved and Donna Roberts seconded to deny the Consent Order. The motion failed as all were opposed. It was the recommendation of the Board to place Ms. Cherrington's license on probation for one year with employer reports every other month. Also Ms. Cherrington is to successfully complete a course in resident's rights, and is only to work at one facility during the probationary period, she cannot work as a floating agency pool nurse.

CONSENT ORDER – LISA MARIE MARRERO, RN

Legal Office Attorney Roberta A. Swafford presented the Board with a Consent Order for Lisa Marie Marrero. Ms. Marrero was present without representation. Mary Brown moved and Donna Roberts seconded to accept the Consent Order. The motion failed as all were opposed. Chair Bouffard stated that this case does not rise to the level of Board discipline.

CONSENT ORDER – DEBRA KAHN, RN

Legal Office Attorney David Tilles presented the Board with a Consent Order for Debra Kahn. Ms. Kahn was present with counsel, Attorney Patrick Noonan. Jennifer Long moved and Merrily Moynihan seconded to accept the Consent Order. The motion passed with all in favor.

CONSENT ORDER MODIFICATION – SARAH BURKE, RN

Legal Office Attorney Roberta A. Swafford presented the Board with a Consent Order for Sarah Burke. Ms. Burke was present with counsel, Attorney Mary Alice Moore Leonhardt. Attorney Swafford reviewed the documents presented by Attorney Leonhardt and had no objections. Katherine Pellerin moved and Jennifer Long seconded to accept the Consent Order. The motion passed with all in favor.

HEARING – STORMY DAVIS, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Diane Wilan was present representing the Department of Public Health. This hearing is the continuation of the February 4, 2009 hearing which was continued to this date to allow Mr. Davis time to acquire his medical/treatment records. Mr. Davis was not present at today's meeting. The Board requested that Attorney Wilan contact Mr. Davis via telephone as to whether or not he would be attending today's hearing. The Board recessed while Attorney Wilan contacted Mr. Davis. Attorney Wilan returned and apprised the Board that she had spoken with Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis stated that he would not be attending today's hearing and that the Board should move forward with the hearing as he is not interested in pursuing the release of his treatment records from the VA Hospital.

Mary Brown moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded that Mr. Davis be found on all charges. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Brown moved and Katherine Pellerin seconded that Mr. Davis' license be revoked. The motion passed unanimously.

HEARING – LEONA BILODEAU, LPN

Legal Office Attorney Leslie Scoville was present representing the Department of Public Health. Leona Bilodeau was present without representation. Testimony was provided by Leona Bilodeau. The hearing was continued to September 2, 2009 to allow Ms. Bilodeau time to sign releases for medical/treatment records to be sent to the Department of Public Health prior to the September 2, 2009 hearing date.

HEARING – MARC BILODEAU, RN

Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina was present representing the Department of Public Health. Marc Bilodeau was present without representation. Testimony was provided by Dawn Pica, Westside Care Center, RN Supervisor, Amy Muro, Westside Care Center, LPN, and Bonnie Pinkerton RN, DPH Monitoring Unit.

The Legal Office previously had filed a continuance request in part as their primary witness was unavailable due to previously scheduled vacation plans. Chair Bouffard granted the continuance to June 3, 2009 at 9:00 AM. It is Mr. Bilodeau's responsibility to provide Legal Office Attorney Linda Fazzina with his medical/treatment records prior to the June 3, 2009 hearing date.

ADJOURNMENT

It was the unanimous decision of the Board Members present to adjourn this meeting at 11:54 AM.